purpose of purchasing various types of new vehicles which have to be registered as public carriers or contract carriers. The rate of interest charged on such advances is 15% p.a. The promoters' contribution is 15% upto 2 vehicles and 20% for more than 2 vehicles.

(c) DFC has stated that to be eligible for such a loan the promoter should be a bonafide resident of the Union Territory of Delhi or Chandigarh and should possess necessary managerial and practical experience to be able to run the transport business. The total number of vehicles owned by the promoter, including the vehicle(s) proposed to be acquired should not exceed 6.

New Rifle for Army

5243. SHRI PRATAP RAO B. BHONSLE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state·

(a) whether the Government propose to provide 'Ishapur-91' the new light weight assault rifle as standard personal weapon to Jawans of Indian Army;

(b) whether these rifles are to be imported or to be manufactured indigenously;

(c) the amount involved in the purchase of the new rifles; and

(d) what will be the disposal of existing rifles?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The rifles are to be manufactured indigenously.

(c) As the rifle is still under development it is not possible to assess the cost likely to be involved in its purchase.

(d) After the introduction of the new rifle, the existing 7.62 mm SLRs will be gradually phased out and disposed of in a manner beneficial to the State.

Exports of Arms

5244. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE:
SHRI GANGADHARA SANIPALLI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the value of arms exported during 1990-91;

(b) the target fixed for export of arms during 1991-92;

(c) whether the Government have appointed any committee of experts to study the feasibility of privatisation of defence production and to formulate a policy for exports of defence items; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The exports (including deemed exports) by defence production units during 1990-91 were of the value of Rs. 78.94 crores.

(b) The target for exports (including deemed exports) by our defence production units during 1991-92 has been fixed at Rs. 104 crores.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Capacity Utilisation of Public Sector Defence Production Units

5245. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state: